

CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 319-2074
FAX (916) 319-2174

DISTRICT OFFICE
701 Palomar Airport Road
Suite 160
Carlsbad, CA 92009
(760) 438-5453
FAX (760) 438-6620

E-mail: howard.kaloogian@asm.ca.gov
Web Page: www.kaloogian.com

Assembly California Legislature



HOWARD KALOOGIAN
ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT

99-130

State Chair
American Legislative
Exchange Council

National Conference of State Legislatures
Committee on Federal Budget & Taxation

COMMITTEES:
Vice-Chair
Revenue & Taxation

Member
Human Services
Local Government

APR 29 1999

April 13, 1999

Mr. Lester Snow
Executive Director, CalFed
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Executive Director Snow:

I have been following the recent developments on the prospective water compromise with great interest. Water is of vital concern to my constituents in San Diego County, as it is for residents, business people and farmers throughout California. CalFed has been very successful thus far bringing these diverse interests together to an understanding of the problem and the solutions that need to be reached.

The revised Phase II report is a significant achievement in that it moves us toward a long-term solution for the Bay Delta system while protecting our environment. This solution is of particular interest to San Diegans, as it provides a reliable, affordable supply of quality water. As you are aware, San Diego County has specific needs and interests in CalFed, particularly:

- ◆ Improved water quality to safeguard public health. Interim quality standards for drinking water should be set prior to any decision on CalFed's final EIR/EIS. While CalFed has been proactive in acknowledging and setting long-term water-quality goals and needs, interim benchmarks are necessary to measure progress. I especially support the Phase II report's recommendation of a Delta Drinking Water Council.
- ◆ Regulatory protections to San Diego County and Southern California that these regions will not suffer any reductions in Delta water supplies in the future.
- ◆ Assurance that urban San Diego/Southern California will not be forced to pay more than its fair share for the Delta solution, equal to the benefits received by the region.
- ◆ Most importantly, that San Diego County benefits equally to other areas of the MWD service region. Currently, the San Diego County Water Authority only gets approximately 15% of its water imported from the Bay Delta. The rest comes from the Colorado River. San Diego needs and deserves a better blending of water from these two sources. I ask that CalFed use its influence with MWD to ensure such blending is finalized.

Finally, CalFed is to be commended for its conservation and recycling programs, which have made great reductions in the amount of water imported from the Bay Delta. However, now is the time for CalFed to recognize and publicly support that these programs do not improve the quality or reliability of water from the Bay Delta. New groundwater and surface storage sites are urgently needed to meet this state's demands, improve its fisheries and aquatic environments, and anchor the water-transfer market.

Respectfully,

HOWARD KALOOGIAN
Assemblyman, 74th District

dcl

CC: Mark Stadler, San Diego County Water Authority
Steven Collins, San Diego County Water Authority